Public Health Act, 1875.

REPORT

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Bradford-on-Avon Urban District,

FOR THE YEAR 1915.

PRESENTED TO THE

Bradford-on-Avon Urban District Council

BY

W. JOHN A. ADYE,

Medical Officer of Health of the Bradford-on-Avon Urban Sanitary Authority.

Holdom & Co., Printers, Bradford-on-Avon.

Medical Officer's Annual Report.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The Estimated Population—The figure supplied from the Registrar General's Office for this year is given at 4402, a decrease of 99 since the Census of 1911.

In a circular, dated December, 1915 from the Local Government Board occurs the following passage "The Board consider that many of the details usually inserted in the Annual Report, such as a description of the district, and of Water Supply, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal, etc., may be ommitted and that the Report may be confined to a record of what has taken place during the year"

In consequence of the above, this report will be materially shortened.

Nett Births number 78, the lowest for 5 years, the number registered in the district being 77, 31 males and 46 females.

Nett Deaths number 60, the highest since 1910, when it was 71.

The Deaths registered in the district numbered 50—5 were infants under 1 year of age, and 30 were 65 years and upwards, one was caused by Enteric Fever; Whooping Cough and Influenza each caused 3. Bronchitis caused the largest number of any disease, namely 9.

Infectious Disease.

Diphtheria. 3 cases, one of them was a carrier case that came from another part of the County where the disease was prevalent; none were fatal.

Scarlet Fever. 13 cases; none fatal.

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis & Ophthalmica Neouotorum, each 1 case.

The total of cases notified was 27 against 32 for last year.

Tuberculosis.

Five cases were reported during the year, all of the lungs, and all males.

One case belonged to the Cyclist Corps of the 26th Division which was billeted here in the early part of the year; as he was a Somerset man he was sent back to that County under the care of the County Tuberculosis Officer.

Another case was sent to Winsley Sanatorium and has since enlisted, and one to Ipswich Sanatorium, and has been at work since his return.

Sputum Cups are supplied, and examination of sputum is made gratuitously to persons of small means. Sputa are sent to the Clinical Research Association.

In all cases of infectious disease, Tubercular or otherwise, the rooms or room of the patient are disinfected with formaldehyde spray. Bedding and clothing are disinfected at the Isolation Hospital.

A full report is made by the Sanitary Inspector on the Sanitary conditions of the house and its surroundings, the milk and water supply, etc.

Weekly returns of all cases are sent to the County Council and Local Government Board.

Nuisances.

Two hundred and seventy-three inspections were made during the year.

Fifiy-five informal Notices were served and all but ten have been complied with. One Statutory Notice has been served and complied with.

Food.

No prosecutions, or samples of food or milk, have been taken by the Council.

A prosecution for adulteration of milk was successfully undertaken by the County Council.

There are no underground Bakehouses.

Housing and Town Planning.

At the end of 1914, fifty-two houses were left on the books as "not reasonably fit for human habitation," and 87 were added on inspection this year making a total of 139. In fifty-three the necessary work had been done leaving a total of 86 to be attended to during 1916.

The reason for so few houses having the work finished are: (1) Shortage of labour. (2) an increased difficulty in getting supplies and their large increase in price. (3) In some cases too long a time, viz: 3 months, in which to get the repairs carried out.

The number of houses inspected was 320; 233 were found satisfactory on inspection. The number of visits paid equalled 445.

Inspection of houses over £16 per annum has been commenced, all those from £16 and less having been finished. Three houses have been demolished voluntarily and two compulsorily.

Houses are greatly needed in the whole area, but till the war ceases there is no prospect of any being built.

Two cases of over-crowding were dealt with during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. A. ADYE.

(1) Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspection	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ... ... (includiug Factory Lanndries).	18	none	none
Workshops ... ... (including Workshop Laundries).	42	none	none
Total.	60	0	0

(2) Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of prosecutions
	Found.	remedied	Referred to H.M Inspector.	
Want of Ventilation ...	none	none	none	none
Overcrowding ...	none	none	none	none
Want of Drainage of floors	none	none	none	none
Other nuisances ...	none	none	none	none
Sanitary accommodation—				
insufficient ...	none	none	none	none
unsuitable or defective...	none	none	none	none
not separate for sexes...	none	none	none	none
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses ...	There	are	none	
Total ...	0	0	0	0

(3). Home Work.

Nature of Work—Wearing Apparel—making, &c.,—1 List received from Employers. Out workers—4.

(4) Registered Workshops.

Tailors	...	...	4
Laundries	...	...	14
Bootmakers	...	...	6
Bakers	...	...	9
Blacksmiths	...	...	1
Ropemakers	...	...	1
Carpenters	...	...	2
Dress Makers	...	...	2
Printer	...	...	1
Plumbers	...	...	2
			42

(5) Other Matters.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory & Workshop Acts (s. 133)	1
Notified by H. M. Inspector	none
Matter notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories... ...	none

Underground Bakehouses :

(s. 101) in use at the end of the year ... ... none

(Signature) W. JOHN A. ADYE.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1915 and Previous Years.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON URBAN DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	NETT.						Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages	
			Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate.*	Of Non-residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.*
1910	4961	102	...	20. 5	59	11. 8	...	12	8	78. 4	71	14. 3
1911	4501	89	91	20.21	49	10.88	2	8	7	78. 6	55	12. 2
1912	4533	87	87	19.19	46	10.14	...	9	4	45.97	55	12.13
1913	4579	97	97	21.18	45	9.82	...	9	...	...	54	11.81
1914	4617	92	92	19.92	49	10.61	2	7	8	86.95	54	11.69
1915	4402	77	78	17.49	50	11.36	...	10	5	63.11	60	13.63

* Rates calculated at per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres ... ... 1,990.

Total population at all Ages ... ... 4,501 } At
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ... 1,166 } Census
Average number of Persons per House ... 3.86 } of 1911.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1915.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON URBAN DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							Number of Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	3	...	1	1	...	1	...	3
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Scarlet Fever	13		2	7	4	...	...	12
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	..	...	...	...	1	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	...	..	...	1	4	...	3
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	27	1	3	8	6	6	3	20

Conjoint Isolation Hospital at Trowbridge.

Winsley and Ipswich Sanitoria.

Total available beds, 50.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1915.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at Subjoined Ages.							
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
All causes { Certified 60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes { Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Meningitis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Bronchitis	9	1	1	...	...	...	1	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Diseases of respiratory organs	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Alcoholism	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	5	...	...	...	...	1	2	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases...	11	1	...	...	...	...	1	9
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
All causes certified	60	5	4	1	1	3	13	33

TABLE IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY during the year 1915.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 Week.	2—3 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes							
Certified 5	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Congenital Malformations	1	...	1	..	..	...	1
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	..	...	1	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...		...	...	1	1
	1	...	1	...	1	3	5

Births in the year { legitimate 75. illegitimate 2.

Deaths { legitimate 5. illegitimate 0.

TABLE C.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

Medical Officer of Health	**Mr. JOHN A. AYDE, M.R.C.S.**
Date of Last Appointment	July, 1913.
Term of Appointment*	Yearly.
Sanitary Inspector	**Mr. RANDLE B. LEES, P.A.S.I.**
Address	The Council Offices, Westbury House, Bradford-on-Avon.

WATER SUPPLY.

Any developments during 1915 ?	None.
Any insufficiency, and where ?	None.
Any curtailment ?	No.
Did any wells fail, and where ?	None.
Any unsatisfactory quality, and where ? ..	None.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Any development during 1915 ?	No.
Developments still neeeded as to	
(*a*) Want of sewers.....	None.
(*b*) Improvement of defective sewers	None.
Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells ?.....	No.
No. of sink-wastes disconnected during 1915	1
Trapped	1
Proportion still needing disconnection	Very few.
Untrapped	Very few.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middens	None.
No. of Pail or Tub Closets	3
Earth Closets.....	5
No. of Privies covered.....	25
No of Water Closets.....	1083
Waste-water Closets.....	None.
No. of Privies re-constructed during 1915	(*a*) w.c's.—0. (*b*) other—0
No. of *additional* closets provided for old property in 1915	(*a*) w.c's.—0. (*b*) other—0
No. of Closets for new houses in 1915.....	(*a*) w.c's.—1. (*b*) other—0

SCAVENGING.

How is refuse disposed of—
(*a*) Destructor—No. (*b*) Tips—Yes. (*c*) Farmers—No.

Total annual cost ?	£130
Is there any inadequacy, and where ? ..	No.
Any change during 1915 ?	Refuse collected from back of premises instead of being put outside.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1915 ..	273
Informal Notices served	55
Complied with	45
Statutory Notices served.....	1
Complied with	1
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1914	22
At close of 1915	10
Reported during 1915	None.
Abated during 1915	67
Summonses or other legal proceedings	None.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	Total No. of Inspections made.	General Condition ?	Legal Proceedings if any.
Common Lodging Houses	1	1	1	Good, no casuals taken in	...
Canal Boats .. ... (Not a Registration District)	...	...	9	One Contravention of Acts, which was remedied.	...
Knackers Yards	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades ... ... (Please specify kind)	...	...	...	...	...

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, *e.g.*, Fish-frying, etc. ? ..... No.

SCHOOLS.

No. of Elementary Schools in District	3
No. of Visits to Schools by M.O.H.	3
Action Taken	None.

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Cowkeepers in district.....	14
Ditto Registered	14
No. of Milksellers who are also Cowkeepers	4
No. who are Purveyors only.....	3
Total No. Registered	3
Total No. of Cowsheds.....	22
No. of Inspections in 1915	46
General Condition.....	Good.
Approx. No. of Milch Cows in District ..	2 712
Any insufficiency in Milk Supply ?	No.
Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders ..	None.
Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent ?	No.

OTHER FOODS.

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs Act	None.
No. adulterated.....	None.
No. of seizures of unsound food	None.
Kind and quantity	—
No. of prosecutions	None.
No. of Slaughter houses	5
No. Registered	5
Kind and Condition	Fair, Two not in use.
No. of Prosecutions	None.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Any Smoke nuisance, and where ?.....	None.
No. of Smoke observations taken	None.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Acts adopted during 1915.....	None.

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Any adopted during 1915 ?.....	No.
Are any other Byelaws needed ?	No.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1915 ?.....	None.
What special action to combat same ? ..	—
Is Hospital accommodation adequate and sufficient ?	Yes.
What arrangement for the supply of antitoxin ?	Free by Council to poor persons.
Any diseases specially added to notifiable List ?	No.
Any influences threatening the health of the District ?	No.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

Mention any subjects which have been specially investigated and reported on during the year.—None out of the ordinary run of work.

TUBERCULOSIS.—*Procedure after notification :*

Inspection of patient's home and workshop	Yes.
Examination for contacts	When necessary.
Disinfection	Yes.
Distribution of advice leaflets	Yes.
Action *re* spitting	Bottles given to poor persons.
Shelters provided	None.
Is sputum examined ?	When required.

BACTERIOLOGY.

What Laboratory utilized ?	Clinical Research Association.
Any suggestions ?	One for the County.

INFANT MORTALITY.

What organised effort to control it ?	None locally.
Has Notification of Births Act, 1907, been adopted ?	Yes, by whole County.
Is Health Visitor appointed by S. A. ?....	No. By County Council.
Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1915	None.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births during 1915	Males 31. Females 46. Total 77
No. of illegitimate included in above	2
No. of Still births (not included)	None.
Deaths during 1915—	
(1) Gross Deaths *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the District *without any correction*	50
(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated	Males 33. Females 27—60

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mean Temperature for 1915	Not known.
Rainfall	Not Registered.
What Mortuary accommodation ?	None.
No. of Burial Grounds.....	2
Any need for extension ?.....	No.

SANITARY STAFF.

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H. ?	£40.
Name of Sanitary Inspector	R. B. Lees.
Annual Salary of Inspector.....	£100
Other appointments held	Surveyor and Waterworks Manager.
Salary for such other appointments	£100
Any Assistants ?	Clerical assistance and pupil.
Is Staff sufficient ?	Yes.

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS

as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries.

All the houses under £16 per annum have been inspected, and work has been commenced on those above that rental.

The total number of visits paid during the year was 445.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WORK DURING 1915.

Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1914.				Action under Section 15.			Action under Section 17.							Houses with defects not disposed of at end of 1915.	
Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation. (Section 15.)	Houses totally unfit for human habitation. (Section 17.)	Houses inspected under the Act and Regulations in 1915.	Houses found satisfactory on inspection.	Houses found not reasonably fit for human habitation.	Houses for which notices were given to execute works.	Houses in respect of which notices were satisfactorily complied with.	Houses found to be totally unfit for habitation.	Houses represented to Local Authority as being totally unfit for human habitation.	Houses in respect of which closing orders were made.	Houses made fit for human habitation after closing order was made, for which the local Authority determined the order.	Houses demolished voluntarily.	Houses for which the demolition orders were made.	Houses demolished compulsorily.	Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation: (Section 15).	Houses totally unfit for human habitation. (Section 17.)
52	5	320	233	87	87	53	1	1	4	2	3	2	2	86	4

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910? R. B. LEES, Westbury House, Bradford-on-Avon.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Sec. 17 (7)? ..... No.

Any action in respect of such rooms? ..... No, there are none.

OTHER ACTION IN REGARD TO HOUSING:—

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where? ..... Yes, in whole district.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where? .. Very little as to cubic space. Bedroom accommodation to separate sexes is needed.

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1915? 2

Any special activity in house building, and where? .. No.

No. of new houses built during 1915? ..... (*a*) Working class dwellings—3. (*b*) Other—None.

Working class dwellings erected during 1915 by Sanitary Authority? ..... Three small cottages, which have been closed for years, have been converted into two cottages.

Are Sanitary Authority contemplating erection of working class dwellings? ..... No.

TOWN PLANNING:—

Any scheme prepared during 1915? If so give details None.

Any scheme contemplated? ..... None.